Central University at Ranchi

5110. SHRI SHIBU SOREN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to establish a Central University at Ranchi;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it would be established; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 stipulates that, in view of the need to effect an all-round improvement in the institutions, it is proposed that, in the near future, the main emphasis will be on consolidation of, and expansion of facilities in, the existing institutions. Programme of Action (POA) also directs that, given the necessity to arrest the declining trend in the flow of plan funds from UGC to State Universities and Colleges, the severe constraint of resources and the need to provide adequate infrastructure in the newly established Cental Universities in the North-East, the Government should exercise restraint in setting up more Central Universities. In view of this, the Central Governemnt is not in favour of setting up of new Central Universities or converting existing State Universities into Central Universities. However, the commitments already made by the Government in this regard will be fully honoured.

Education in Primary Schools

†5111. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made an assessment of the existing state of affairs of primary schools set up in rural regions, before implementing literacy campaign in the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, what is the report about the buildings, teachers, attendance of students, availability of facilities required during study time and the level of education in primary schools in the country; and

(c) whether comprehensive improvement is required in these schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) The Sixth All India Educational Survey, 1993 carried out a comprehensive survey of buildings, teachers and availability of facilities in primary schools in the country. Since then a large number of initiatives like the DPEP in 219 districts of 15 states, Lok Jumbish in 75 blocks of Rajasthan, National Programme for Nutritional support for Primary Education for children all over the country and extension of the scheme of "Operation Black Board' to cover upper primary schools, has been initiated. These have considerably improved the position of buildings, teachers, attendance of students and availability of facilities, though even now the field surveys indicate that the position is still not satisfactory. It is on account of this that the proposed "Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' for universal elementary education focusses on providing uncovered gaps based on decentralized planning with community ownership.

Smart School at Hyderabad

5112. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

SHRI RAMACHANDRAIAH RUMANDLA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has rquested to consider locating a Smart School in association With sun Microsystems at Hyderabad;

(b) if so, whether selection of Hyderabad, as one of the locations for setting up smart schools in association with Sun Microsystems, has been finalised; and

(c) if not, by when a final decision would be taken in the matter;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no proposal at present to set up "Smart Schools' in associaiton with Sun Microsystems. However, setting up a Teacher Training Centre, in association with Sun Microsystems, at Hyderabad is under consideration.

(c) Question does not arise.